

The Romulus News

APRIL 22, 2005 – MAY 5, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 19

Timely Tidbits ...

Fund-raiser Benefits New Animal Shelter

If you're looking for lunch, dinner, or a late-night snack on Tuesday, May 10, Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth is hoping that you'll get it from Captain Nemo's Submarine Sandwiches.

For the second straight year, restaurant owner John Brimble has agreed to donate 20% of the day's take to the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund, Wadsworth's "pet project." Also like last year, Brimble will have a "spare-change jar" handy for additional donations.

Captain Nemo's – located at 12033 South Huron River Drive – will be open May 10 from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. To place your carry-out order, call 734-941-6000.

Prayer Breakfast

The Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church of Romulus is inviting the community to attend a Scholarship Prayer Breakfast at the church (35625 Vinewood) on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Suggested donation: \$6 for adults, \$3 for children.

For more information, call the church (734-728-1273) or visit its Website (<http://thepencenter.org>) to send an e-mail.

Citywide Rummage Sale Permits Available

Free permits for the annual Citywide Rummage Sale – set for Thursday, May 19, through Sunday, May 22 – are now available at the Romulus Recreation Department, located at 36515 Bibbins in downtown Romulus. (Note: If two or more of the sale dates are rained out, the event will be rescheduled for June 2–5.)

Although permits will be available until the event begins, residents must register by 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, to be included in flyers and newspaper ads promoting sale locations.

For more information, call the Recreation Department office at 734-942-6852. □

School Board Candidates Express Views



Cheryle A. Buckley



April Frayer



Tony A. Heimberger



Leo L. Knasiak, Jr.

Editor's note: To help voters decide who they will support in the upcoming Romulus Community Schools Board of Education election (set for Tuesday, May 3), "the little paper" recently distributed a questionnaire to the four candidates vying for the two available seats.

The five questions asked of the candidates were deliberately general in format, giving everyone a chance to focus on the issues that they consider to be the most important. Personal data was also solicited to give voters some idea about each candidate's background, experience, and knowledge of dedication to the community.

No word limit was placed on the responses; candidates were invited to provide as much detail as they wished.

To avoid the appearance of giving anyone preferential treatment, the responses are arranged alphabetically, according to the candidates' last names.

CHERYLE BUCKLEY (incumbent)

Age: 49

Education:

Romulus High School graduate; Wayne County Community College and Baker College

Occupation (past and present):

secretary, Romulus Community Schools Adult Education (1973–1978); supervisor/administrator, General Motors (1979–present)

Professional memberships:

Board of Directors – Employee Involvement Association (through GM); NAACP

Military service:

none

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:

presently president of the Romulus Board of Education; member of the Romulus Community Schools Healthy Living Advisory Committee, Parents That Care (Barth Elementary), and Romulus High School Athletic Booster Club; member of the Romulus Community Baptist Church

Other community-service work:

Romulus Little League (8 years)

Marital status/name of spouse:

married to Ronald Buckley (28 years)

Children (if any):

Ronald II (sophomore, Michigan State University)

Number of years as a resident

within the school district:

49 years

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:

734-941-7025

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

I do not have one single issue. I am in the fourth year of my first term, and my focus has not changed. My concern is, as always, to continue ensuring that our students receive the quality education they deserve so that they may be able to excel and compete at the next level of education or whatever endeavor they may choose.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be

but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

There are no actions/policies that I would like to see changed. Our board and policy committee have worked diligently on all the issues we are faced with. Of course, there is always room for enhancement, but there is nothing I would change at this time.

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

Our single biggest success is swiftly reaching a labor agreement with our unions that was fair and equitable for both sides in such challenging times. This creates a positive situation for everyone involved, especially the students.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

Our bond issue took care of most of our major projects. Considering the financial state we are in due to the State cutting the budget for our schools, I do not see anything major happening. We can only hope to maintain the excellent facilities we have.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

My passion is for the students of Romulus. Re-election would allow me the opportunity to continue to work towards my goals of ensuring that our students receive the quality education they deserve, and helping to maintain a positive environment for every member

continued on page 5

Letters to the Editor

Buczkowski Resigns as BZA Alternate

To the residents of Romulus:

I have asked to have my letter of resignation printed in this newspaper because, at the last regular meeting of the Romulus City Council, it was not read for all to hear.

I think the residents of this city need to know how some things are handled by the current administration.

I was an alternate on the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) for approximately four years. I was told that I did an excellent job and did nothing wrong. But when an opening for a full-time member became available, I was passed over, and someone else was chosen for the position. I was offered another term as

alternate for three more years, instead.

You would think that the proper thing to do, when choosing someone for a full-time position, would be to appoint a person who has paid his dues as an alternate, rather than a friend of the "good old boys."

The person who was selected is probably well qualified, but so am I.

Again, I am asking that this letter be printed so that some of the less fortunate residents who don't have cable television can be informed about some of the things that go on in this city.

Respectfully,
Ed Buczkowski
Romulus

Courts Subverting Freedom of Religion

To the Editor:

We like to brag about our "free country," don't we? But how "free" are we really? Because our constitution says so? Isn't the freedom to practice religion guaranteed by the Constitution itself? Our "free country" is being mutilated by judicial tyranny declaring the Constitution itself "unconstitutional"!

Our country has reached a really sad state of affairs when our constitution, which was written by some really smart men and has served us well for over 200 years, needs to be "restored." Under Article III of the Constitution, Congress has the power, the authority, and the responsibility to regulate the Federal Judiciary, including the Supreme Court. Why, then, are activist judges getting away with declaring "unconsti-

tutional" any moral laws that don't fit their code of political correctness? Why is this judicial dictatorship being permitted to deny "free exercise of religion," thereby totally subverting the will of the people? They not only abuse the Constitution, they destroy our treasured liberty to teach and raise our children with the moral ethics we choose!

While impeachment may be warranted, it is a long and tedious process — during which time irreparable damage is being done to our children's minds and hearts! *The religious liberty guaranteed by our constitution must be restored!*

Please ask your senators and representatives to do their job! Don't let them be intimidated by activist judges.

Lucille Raymond
Southgate

Math Stars Shine at Middle School



Romulus Middle School "math stars" were recognized for earning all A's in mathematics during the first semester of the 2004-2005 school year. The honorees included: (from left) front — Jessica Sylvester, Loretta Blue, Latisha Ware, and Derrick White; back — David Forbush, Dominique Walker, Ashley Perry, Candace Poet, Gary Nemeth, and Gary Hemmingway.

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Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 am

Sunday Youth Church: 11:00 am

Sunday School: 9:30 am

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Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 pm

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The Romulus News

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The Romulus News invites individuals and organizations to submit articles that may be of interest to its readers; however, The Romulus News is not responsible for the content of such articles, and the opinions and views expressed by the writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or staff. The Romulus News reserves the right to edit any article submitted for publication; however, since material submitted for "Letters to the Editor," "Local Commentary," and similar columns may be printed verbatim, misspellings and grammar errors in these columns may be the responsibility of the writer, and not of the composition department of The Romulus News. All letters, commentaries, and other columns must be signed, and must include a telephone number so that their authenticity can be verified.

We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although every attempt will be made to do so.

The Romulus News reserves the right to run special advertising rates for each area covered by its distribution without effect on normal contractual rates.

The Romulus News will furnish "personal" (nonbusiness) advertisements, free of charge, to Romulus residents on a "space available" basis.

While every effort is made to insure that advertisement copy is error-free, The Romulus News is not responsible for problems resulting from typographical errors which may appear in any advertisement, and limits its liability to the advertiser to the cost of the ad.

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Guest Commentary

Romulus National Day of Prayer Is May 5

By Reverend William Kren, pastor of Community United Methodist Church and member of the Romulus Christian Ministerial Association

As American troops fight for democracy and freedom around the globe, citizens of the United States are preparing to celebrate their freedom to gather, worship, and pray. Millions will answer the call to prayer on Thursday, May 5 (the 54th annual National Day of Prayer) by flocking to observances held in public venues to pray for the nation, governmental leaders, media, and schools.

Closer to home, the Romulus Christian Ministerial Association extends an invitation to the men, women, and children of Romulus to attend their 14th annual Romulus National Day of Prayer on May 5 at 12 noon at the Veteran's Memorial on Wayne Road in front of Romulus City Hall.

This year's theme – **God Shed His Grace on Thee** – is based on Hebrews 4:16 NIV: "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." National

Day of Prayer chairman Shirley Dobson, wife of Focus on the Family founder and chairman Dr. James Dobson, said, "The concept of grace is preeminent in both the National Day of Prayer theme and the supporting verse for this year."

Members of the Ministerial Association believe that prayer has always been a movement of God and His grace. It not only unites our many local churches of Romulus, it unites our community, and it can also unite the nation. This May, as Christian believers in Romulus gather to seek God's face, we anticipate the powerful blessings of His hand.

The National Day of Prayer tradition predates the founding of the United States of America when the Continental Congress issued a proclamation setting aside a day of prayer in 1775. In 1952, Congress established an annual day of prayer and, in 1988, that law was amended, designating the National Day of Prayer as the first Thursday in May.

For more information about the Romulus National Day of Prayer, contact Reverend Rita Talley: 734-941-0225 (church) or 734-595-6330 (home). □

Guest Commentary

Dramatic Downtown Changes Continue

By Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

Three and half years ago, when I was elected mayor, Romulus was a very different place. Our downtown area was more like a ghost town rather than the center of this city. I made it a priority to revitalize our downtown area and make it the heart of this community. Some said that it could not be done in three and a half short years, but I was determined to show the residents of Romulus a downtown to be proud of and call their own – a goal, I am happy to say, that we are well on our way to achieving.

The first step in changing the image of our downtown was to give people a reason to go there. We accomplished that by bringing in the new Romulus Market Place. Before this full-service grocery store came to Romulus, residents were forced to leave the city to do their shopping. As we all know, this can be aggravating, especially when you are in the middle of cooking dinner and have to run up to the store to get an ingredient you forgot to buy. Thankfully, residents no longer have to make long trips to the store; they can now run into Romulus Market Place and pick up whatever they need.

The second step was the demolition of several blighted, abandoned, and unsafe structures.

Romulus Market Place then served as a catalyst for reviving our downtown area by bringing in new businesses. Since that time, we have welcomed Metro Palace Café, Juanita's Mexican Restaurant, The Whistle Stop Diner, and Subway. We would also like to welcome the newly opened Jamie's Polka Dots to our downtown community. But that is just the beginning.

The look of our downtown is changing, as well.

Recently we began installing decorative streetlights throughout the down-

town area from Wayne Road to Five Points. These new lights give our downtown a hometown feel, something that I believe is important in creating a place where people feel comfortable and safe.

Another new addition to our revitalization efforts is the Façade Enhancement Program funded by the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). This new program will afford business owners within the DDA District the opportunity to work with architects and designers to enhance the appearance of the exterior of their buildings. The DDA program will give downtown businesses the opportunity to apply for grant funds up to a maximum of \$15,000 per applicant per year.

The Romulus Historical Park has also become a large attraction to our downtown area with the recent addition of the 100-year-old Wabash Freight Building and the upcoming open-air pavilion, which will be located on Goddard Road. These new additions will give us a venue to host new events such as concerts in the park, a farmers market, and possibly even the new Spring Festival that is slated to begin next year. It will also give us the chance to expand the yearly Pumpkin Festival throughout the park. We thank the Romulus Rotary Club for their contribution to this worthwhile project. We also want to thank the Downtown Development Authority, the Romulus Historical Commission, and the Romulus Historical Society.

The change in our downtown has been dramatic, but it is not over yet. We are also currently negotiating with developers about bringing beautiful brown-stone condominiums into our downtown.

I want you to know that I am still working to make our downtown a place that the residents and business owners of this community can be proud of and call their own. We aren't quite there yet, but we are getting closer every day. □

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The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of Romulus Police Department activity during the period of Monday, April 4, through Saturday, April 16, 2005.

(Note: Information is presented in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

Monday, April 4

- 12:31 a.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 35500 Ecorse)
- 9:36 a.m. – Recovered Stolen Vehicle (Recovered UDAA, or Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile) (block of 7100 Dodge)
- 11:31 a.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 12:04 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 28300 Leroy)
- 1:56 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:54 p.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 7:05 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 35600 Garner)
- 7:37 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 34200 Pine Wood Circle)
- 7:41 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaint (block of 12100 Sharon)
- 9:05 p.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 5800 Middlebelt)
- 9:13 p.m. – A&B (block of 7780 Merriman)

Tuesday, April 5

- 3:17 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6050 Biddle)
- 4:10 a.m. – OUIL (block of 7100 Merriman)
- 7:25 a.m. – Threats (block of 6050 Biddle)
- 1:01 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 6350 Middlebelt)
- 1:08 p.m. – Rescue (block of 15300 Meadow)
- 2:40 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 6350 Middlebelt)
- 4:48 p.m. – Threats (block of 27600 Pennsylvania)
- 6:22 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 39000 Superior)
- 7:38 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 15100 Meadow)
- 9:20 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 15300 Meadow)

Wednesday, April 6

- 12:07 a.m. – Fight (block of 11400 Moore)
- 1:29 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 11600 Gabriel)
- 8:48 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 15700 Oakbrook)

- 10:29 a.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 2:11 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9490 Tobine)
- 2:55 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 5930 Middlebelt)
- 3:15 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 38400 Westvale)
- 4:23 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28300 Heather Way)
- 8:58 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6540 Gloria)
- 11:19 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 6670 Gloria)
- 11:20 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 8420 Whitehorn)

Thursday, April 7

- 12:35 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 35800 Beverly)
- 8:05 a.m. – Larceny (block of 30600 Flynn Drive)
- 2:14 p.m. – Health and Safety (block of 35900 Herman)
- 3:22 p.m. – Robbery (block of 31200 Ecorse)
- 4:29 p.m. – Larceny (block of 7010 Chippewa)
- 5:21 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 10:50 p.m. – OUIL (block of 9270 Middlebelt)

Friday, April 8

- 12:18 a.m. – Larceny (block of 5820 Middlebelt)
- 1:14 a.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 35300 Atlas)
- 2:12 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6220 Middlebelt)
- 11:17 a.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 12:56 p.m. – Larceny (block of 36500 Van Born)
- 2:56 p.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 8870 Whitehorn)
- 3:22 p.m. – B&E (block of 15000 Harrison)
- 4:08 p.m. – Larceny (block of 8000 Merriman)
- 5:05 p.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 8:15 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 15300 Meadow)
- 9:35 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 5930 Middlebelt)
- 10:08 p.m. – Drug-related Activity or Investigation (Violation of Public Health Code, or VPHC) (block of 6060 Colorado)

Saturday, April 9

- 12:05 a.m. – Fireworks (block of 16200 Harrison)
- 1:01 a.m. – A&B (block of 36300 Eureka)

- 5:06 a.m. – B&E (block of 15700 Birch)
- 7:32 a.m. – B&E (block of 6870 Inkster)
- 10:43 a.m. – A&B (block of 15000 Plain Way)
- 3:35 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:13 p.m. – VPHC Activity/Investigation (block of 10400 Middlebelt)
- 10:04 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 39300 Buckingham Drive)
- 11:22 p.m. – VPHC Activity/Investigation (block of 16000 Hannan Road)
- 11:53 p.m. – OUIL (block of 5800 Wayne)

Sunday, April 10

- 12:24 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 5980 Esther)
- 12:50 a.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 36800 Herman)
- 4:33 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 30500 Redwood)
- 4:06 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 12100 Schultz)
- 5:39 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 37400 Herman)
- 5:57 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 16000 Hermosa)
- 6:20 p.m. – Threats (block of 14300 Harrison)
- 8:20 p.m. – A&B (block of 34700 Malcolm)
- 11:00 p.m. – Fight (block of 6950 Niagara)
- 11:16 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 15000 Streamway)
- 11:28 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 5900 East Maple)

Monday, April 11

- 1:02 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 9460 Biddle)
- 3:14 a.m. – OUIL (block of 5980 Inkster)
- 3:28 a.m. – Fight (block of 30400 Eureka)
- 9:14 a.m. – Larceny (block of 33400 Sand Piper Drive)
- 9:44 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:07 a.m. – Rescue (block of 32800 Ecorse)
- 2:40 p.m. – Larceny (block of 27400 Ecorse)
- 3:04 p.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:14 p.m. – UDAA (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 8:41 p.m. – Malicious Destruction of Property (MDOP) (block of 28200 Northline)

Tuesday, April 12

- 3:56 a.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 6980 Birchdale)
- 4:35 a.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 6980 Birchdale)
- 7:46 a.m. – Larceny (block of 29400 Smith)
- 8:14 a.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 6980 Birchdale)
- 8:50 a.m. – Fight (block of 29300 Northline)
- 9:16 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 8320 Merriman)
- 9:39 a.m. – Rescue (block of 6320 Hunt)
- 10:45 a.m. – Larceny (block of 35700 Genron Drive)
- 11:46 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:51 a.m. – Fight (block of 35500 Goddard)
- 12:33 p.m. – Disturbance (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 2:10 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 4:19 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:26 p.m. – OUIL (block of 29400 Ecorse)
- 5:28 p.m. – Fight (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 5:50 p.m. – A&B (block of 5920 Frederic)
- 6:28 p.m. – Threats (block of 5920 Frederic)
- 7:33 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 6000 Biddle)
- 9:20 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 15000 Mountain Way)

Wednesday, April 13

- 4:30 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 30400 Elm Lane)
- 12:29 p.m. – B&E (block of 7020 Canyon)
- 3:23 p.m. – Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 4:31 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:17 p.m. – Larceny (block of 35000 Michelle)
- 6:30 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 9960 Wayne)
- 10:10 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 10:30 p.m. – OUIL (block of 31400 Ecorse)

Thursday, April 14

- 12:15 a.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 15700 Orchard)
- 1:32 a.m. – OUIL (block of 8910 Merriman)

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School Board Candidates Express Views

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on staff at Romulus Community Schools.

I am the best candidate for this position because I am dedicated and committed, and possess the drive to continue to serve the students and parents of Romulus. I hope my hard work these last four years will ensure you that I will continue to serve just as hard, if not harder, for the next four years if you will allow me the opportunity.

* * *

APRIL FRAYER (incumbent)

Age: 31

Education:

Romulus High School graduate;
Cleary College (study: business management)

Occupation (past and present):

Schenker, Inc. (6 years); on-site Ford Motor Company (4 years); 13 years in logistics; 2 years working in Computer IT at Ford Motor Company

Professional memberships:

Romulus Board of Education (4 years, including 1 year as secretary, 1 year as treasurer, and 1 year as vice-president)

Military service:

N/A

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:

Romulus Little League Board, Girls' Softball Division vice-president; coached 7- & 8-year-old farm division and T-ball; Romulus Downriver Football Organization cheerleading coach (3 years)

Other community-service work:

Pumpkin Festival volunteer

Marital status/name of spouse:

single

Children (if any):

2 boys – Jordan Frayer (10 years old; Barth Elementary student) and Jeremy Frayer (9 years old; Barth Elementary student)

Number of years as a resident within the school district:

31 years (lifelong resident)

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:

734-229-0203

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

I have several reasons why I am seeking election to the Romulus Board of Education. To list a few:

- the education and well-being of the students within our district;
- to ensure that the taxpayers are not affected by all the cuts set down from our legislature;

- to implement the motivation to go after as much grant money as we can to better our district.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

Since my time on the board, there have been several issues that I have addressed and worked with the district to have changed. A few items have been:

- the report cards in the elementary schools;
- the hiring process for administrators;
- the food service (continues to be an ongoing problem, but I'm still trying to get it resolved).

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

I believe that the district has had several big successes. To list a few:

- academic success such as Barth Elementary being awarded the Blue Ribbon;
- the scholarships that our students are being awarded;
- the new Romulus Elementary School;
- the swimming pool at the High School;
- the new football field at the Middle School.

I would further improve upon it by seeing to it that the new facilities are kept up to date and taken care of at no cost to the taxpayers.

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

The next major project should be to focus on the improvement of our Middle School. In order to do so, we need to ensure that security is maintained and structure is administered.

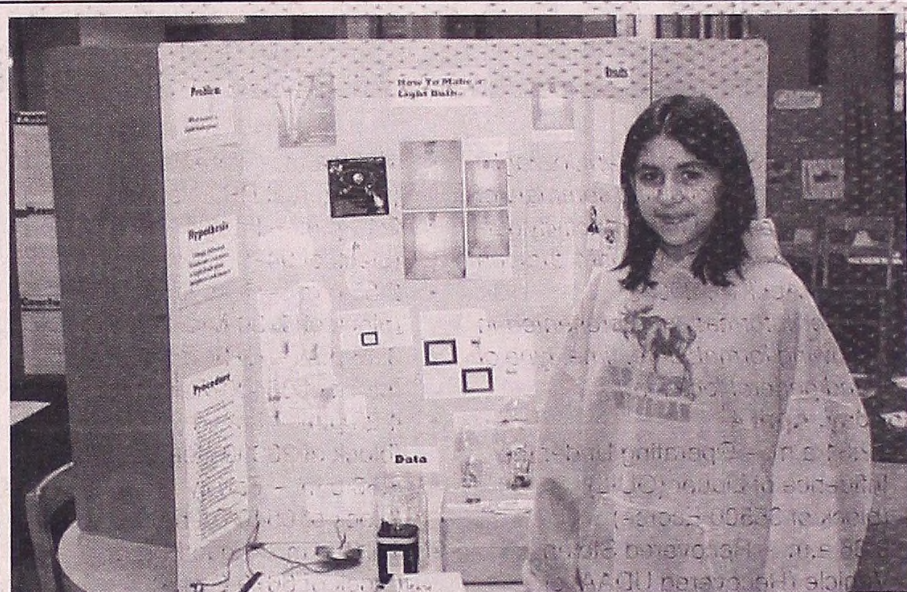
Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

As a parent of two boys who attend Barth Elementary, I am seeking election to the Romulus Board of Education because I feel that it is important to me to be a part of the decisions that are being made in regards to the children in this community.

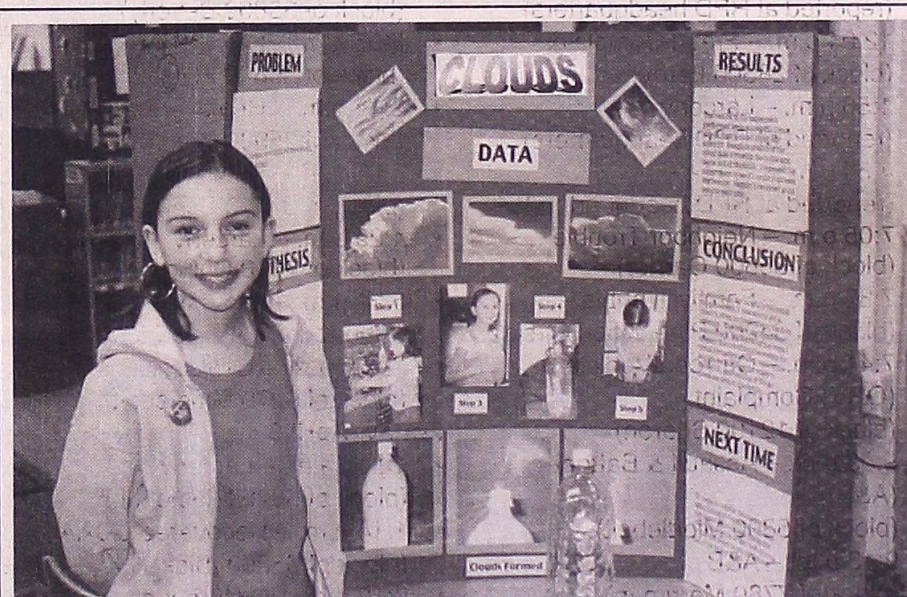
What makes me the best candidate for the job is that I have a strong involvement in other areas in this community, and I interact with a lot of the youth of our community to see the results and hear

continued on page 6

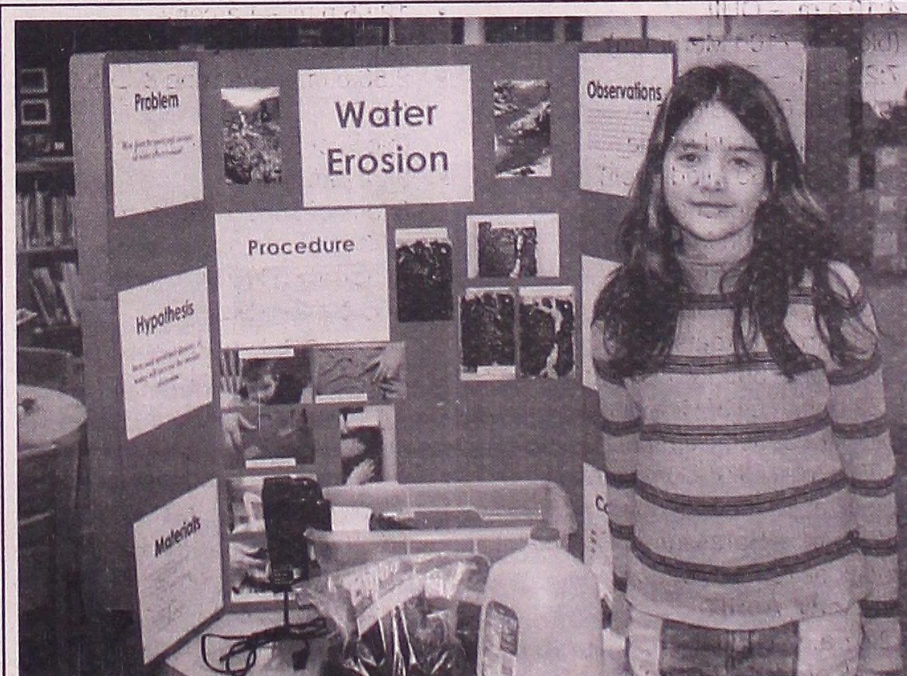
Barth Science Fair



Barth Elementary School's annual science fair featured many interesting displays, including fifth-grader Katelynn Buyer's first-place exhibit on how to make a light bulb.



Savannah Moffat showed off her "Clouds" display at the Barth Science Fair. She received a first-place award for her outstanding work.



Barth fifth-grader Jessica Dawson was proud of her award-winning earth-science experiment on water erosion.

Board Recognizes Cory Reading Stars



Cory Elementary School "reading stars" recognized at a recent meeting of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education included: (from left) front – Kevin Crawford, Sierra Brown, Ashleigh Quiton, Quandral Thompson, and Anthony Bower; second row – Diante Hill, Jason Wise, Alexis Paisley, Layth Douglas, Jordan Quiton, and Herb Buckley; third row – Chelsi Hillard, Mariah Nelson, Daisha O'Banner, DeAnté Ross-Springer, and Ashleigh Bennett; fourth row – Sharnita Starks, Macee Logerstedt, Gabrielle Miller, Misty Briscoe, Edward Hillard, and Marcus Madison; back – D'Antoine Irving, DeAndré Thompson, Olivia Madison, Azia Riley, Zoatta Hogan, Darnel Fields, and Kaessi Torres.

Students Dress Up For Heritage Day



Dressing up as real people or fictional characters for their school's recent Heritage Day program were Barth Elementary kindergartners, including: (from left) front – Sarah Dixon (dressed as Rosa Parks) and Nicole Moody (Oprah Winfrey); second row – J'won Patterson (Garrett Morgan), Richard Taylor (Steve Yzerman), Jullian Young (Tiger Woods), Paul Saval (Abraham Lincoln), Brittany Munn (Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*), and Stephanie VanAssche (Mother Teresa); third row – Justin Sayer (Thomas Edison), Chloe Ruschel (Jennifer Granholm), Jacob Dawson (Bill Martin, Jr.), and Forrest Hill (Henry Ford); fourth row – Dalton Smith (Spider-Man), Alexis Bossidis (Diane Sawyer), Stephanie Sullivan (Juliet Gordon), Sydney Bossidis (Betsy Ross), Drayke Adkinson (John Glenn), and Jaeden Butler (Dr. Martin Luther King); back – Enoch Walker (Muhammad Ali).

School Board Candidates Express Views

continued from page 5

the concerns of the children, parents, and taxpayers. I have demonstrated strong listening skills to the community, and have been able to either correct problems and concerns myself, or see to it that they get resolved and that everyone is satisfied with the results.

* * *

TONY A. HEIMBERGER

Age: 39

Education:

Davenport College of Business, accounting major/business law minor

Occupation (past and present):
accounting

Professional memberships:

(no response)

Military service:

(no response)

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:

co-founder and past president of Romulus Environmentalists Care About People (RECAP)

Other community-service work:

(no response)

Marital status/name of spouse:

single

Children (if any):

(no response)

Number of years as a resident within the school district:

19

Telephone number where residents can contact you with questions and/or concerns:

734-955-9151

* * *

Question #1: As you seek election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, what single issue is the primary plank of your campaign platform?

Romulus First: not only do the kids of this district need to be represented, so do the taxpayers of this community need to be represented and have a voice on the board.

Question #2: Of all the actions/policies adopted by the board in the past four years, which one would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position (if elected), and the fact that your vote would be but one of seven, how would you go about accomplishing such a change?

Even though it is several years old, and deals with schools of choice, we should stop importing students from other cities. How can Romulus hometown students have school loyalty with so many strange kids in their school? They also cost the taxpayers of Romulus more on their tax bill. The way to change it is to have residents show up to the meeting or write to board members

and let their feelings be known. If they do not respond, vote in someone new when they come up for re-election.

Question #3: During that same four-year period, what do you believe has been the board's single biggest success? How would you further improve upon it?

(no response)

Question #4: The various additions and improvements funded by the 1999 bond issue are now complete. In your opinion, what should be the district's next major project, and how should it be funded?

At this time, there should be no further major projects. We need to get a handle on spending. There are items in the school that do not get any funding, and should have some type of budget. The taxpayers need to get some relief from the school taxes, since Romulus is toward the top of the list for school districts that pay the highest school tax in Michigan. We need to step back and learn to control our spending in our district.

Question #5: Why are you seeking election to the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, and what makes you the best candidate for the job?

Being the best candidate, I will represent the students, but I will also represent the taxpayers of Romulus. I also know how to handle a checkbook, which I feel is not happening in our school district.

* * *

LEO L. KNASIAK, JR.

Age: (no response)

Education:

bachelor's degree in business w/ minor in finance, Eastern Michigan University; associate's degree in accounting, Schoolcraft College

Occupation (past and present):

employed in the Controller's Office at Ford Motor Co., Dearborn (policy and procedure administrator, financial analyst, inventory control manager, and internal auditor)

Professional memberships:

(no response)

Military service:

U.S. Army officer (Vietnam era)

Government/school offices or agencies, community-service groups, and/or churches of which you are or have been a member:

previously a member of St. Raphael Church, Garden City

Other community-service work:

(no response)

Marital status/name of spouse:

divorced

Children (if any):

one daughter

continued on page 7



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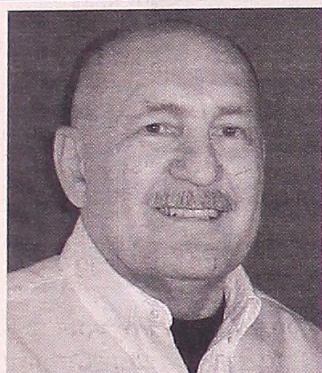
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School Board Candidates Express Views

continued from page 6

**Number of years as a resident
within the school district:**

20-year resident

**Telephone number where residents
can contact you with questions
and/or concerns:**

734-326-5992

* * *

**Question #1: As you seek elec-
tion to the Romulus Community
Schools Board of Education, what
single issue is the primary plank of
your campaign platform?**

Address tax reform and control tax obligations currently affecting the tax burden placed on the residents, without sacrificing, reducing, or neglecting the availability for a student to obtain the skills and prerequisite studies required for advancing and achieving a higher level of education, which is mandatory to be competitive in today's global job market.

**Question #2: Of all the actions/
policies adopted by the board in the
past four years, which one would
you most like to see changed? Keep-
ing in mind the powers and limita-
tions of your position (if elected),
and the fact that your vote would be
but one of seven, how would you go
about accomplishing such a change?**

Transparency and residential involvement is a necessity, which reflects confidence of an effective and efficient school board. The current school board has been reluctant and has generated hurdles, currently hampering participation by residents. This issue needs to be resolved. The school board meetings should be held live, without conflicting with other televised meetings and/or events.

The Romulus school board and the school superintendent have consistently avoided this issue. I would introduce and recommended changing the current meeting date, which would be accommodative to the residents who would like to participate. If the board were not receptive, then I would take my case to the voters and let them determine when they want "their" school board to meet.

**Question #3: During that same
four-year period, what do you be-
lieve has been the board's single
biggest success? How would you
further improve upon it?**

I personally have only observed a school board who consistently votes and agrees on issues presented by a single voice. The voice and advice is that of the school superintendent.

I have neither witnessed nor clearly observed an independent school board. Always waiting to see when a school board member would champion his or her own initiative of substance for educational growth. With that in mind, I cannot comment on any one success the board initiated.

**Question #4: The various addi-
tions and improvements funded by
the 1999 bond issue are now com-
plete. In your opinion, what should
be the district's next major project,
and how should it be funded?**

A "bond" is the same as a "tax."

When a financial debt has been repaid and the objective obtained, it is not necessary to rush out and burden the taxpayer with another bond issue. Expansion and needs must be "warranted and affordable" to the public. An administration will always want more; however, a school board needs to be fiscally responsible to its constituents.

**Question #5: Why are you seek-
ing election to the Romulus Commu-
nity Schools Board of Education, and
what makes you the best candidate
for the job?**

I believe it is time to re-invent how the Romulus school board operates. If elected, I will introduce and support taking a more private-business approach towards financing, managing, and operating the Romulus school system.

Having achieved and performed 30 years of loyal and dedicated service in the Controllers Office of the Ford Motor Co., my financial/business savvy and leadership skills will be a tremendous asset to the school board and the residents of Romulus.

Being diverse and having an experienced business sense, I will try to influence members to embrace and institute a new private-business approach - an approach that would be beneficial to the residents, reflective of private-business attributes, culture, and working towards fiscal responsibility and tax reform that will control the rising tax burden placed on residents.

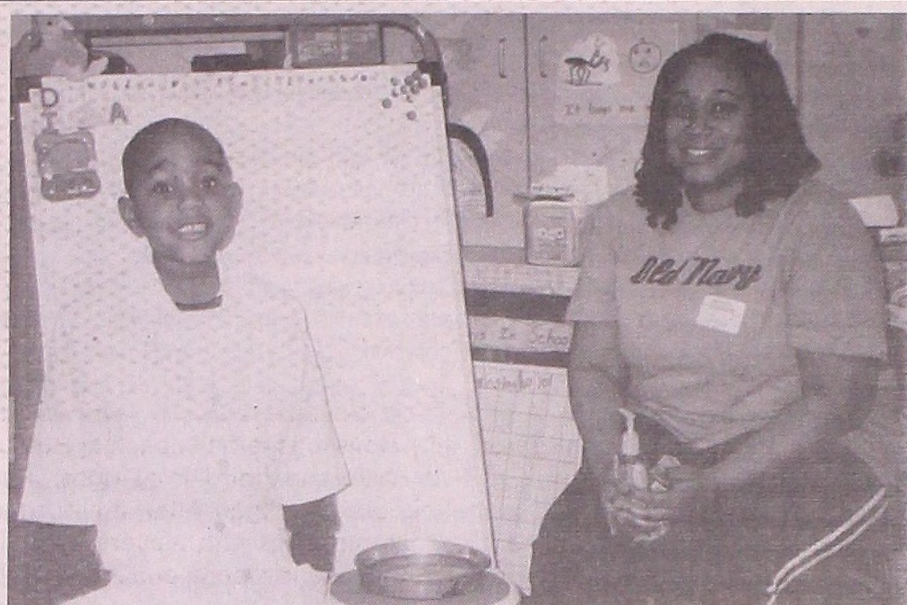
The continuing rise in property taxes and the cost of living is a continuing concern for all residents. Romulus school board members need to be knowledgeable about controlling and monitoring the rising per-student costs, understand the increasing employee benefit liabilities, and be capable of being flexible to meet future expansion needs without raising taxes or issuing bonds to meet those obligations.

A major cost concern is the current variable costs (employee benefits) that are plaguing the school budget. These costs need to be evaluated and converted into fixed costs that would be co-shared by the employees.

Because of minimal community growth, revenue dollars from the new developments and the yearly re-evaluation property tax assessments need to be directed toward students and not for salaries and benefits, which count for a significant portion of the school budget.

The residents need to elect individuals who are qualified, knowledgeable, independent, and progressively capable of embracing changes. □

Kindergartners Take Turns Being "Scientist of the Week"



When Tre Madison was Scientist of the Week at Halecreek Elementary, his mother, Tanya Madison, helped him sprinkle pepper in a dish of water and then add liquid soap, which repelled the pepper. The Madisons explained that the pepper "ran away" from the soap because the soap reduced the water's surface tension.

Each week, a kindergarten student at Halecreek Elementary is chosen to be "Scientist of the Week."

On Monday, the child takes home a special "scientist's bag" containing a lab coat, a compass, a flashlight, binoculars, insect-catching equipment, a stethoscope, a tape measure, a book about simple science experiments, and information for the child's parent(s).

On Thursday, the Scientist of the Week brings back the bag and demonstrates one of the experiments on which he worked with his family. The child also tells the class how he used the tools in the scientist's bag. Frequently, parents come to class to help their child do the experiment that they practiced at home.

"This activity meets some of the science and language-arts objectives

established by the Romulus Community Schools to help children acquire skills to meet Michigan's grade-level expectations," explained kindergarten teacher Cathy Kudra. "It also provides a good opportunity for parents to become involved in their child's educational development."

The students really look forward to their turn to be Scientist of the Week.

"I liked to be the Scientist of the Week because I used the science tools like the science pincher," said Justin Kilgore. "I told my friends how to use them, too."

Tre Madison also enjoyed his turn. "I had fun when I was Scientist of the Week because my mom helped me drop the soap in the water to help the pepper run away," he said.

Halecreek Holds Annual Talent Show



Halecreek Elementary students taking part in their school's annual talent show included: (from left) front – Selena Masters, Brooke Nierman, Kayla Watkins, Katrina McKinney, Danielle Arrington, Xavier Curtis, and Antonio Smith; back – Amber Bailey, Alesha Bailey, Jalyn Echols, Tara Radford, Kelly McGlynn, Chris Watt, Steven Leppen, Joanna Rogers, and Chelsea Allen.

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Student teacher Laurie Bilyk helped Scientist of the Week Justin Kilgore demonstrate some of the tools in his scientist's bag.

Studying African-American Inventions



Romulus Elementary students showed off a variety of items that were either invented or modified by African-Americans. Pictured are: (from left) front – Andrea Schiffer (ironing board/Sarah Boone), Marcus Lewis (traffic light/Garrett Morgan), Kaylan Spieth (guitar/Robert Fleming), Tazonda Gibbs (lemon squeezer/J.H. White), and Bryant Hicks (Super-Soaker/Lonnie Johnson); back – Brittany Francis (lightbulb filament/Lewis Latimer), Darius Smith (mop/Thomas Stewart), and Anthony Horn (telephone/Granville Woods).

Boys' Basketball Team Is State Champ; Girls' Team Runner-up

Romulus Community High School's boys' basketball team has won its second Michigan Alternative Athletic Association Class "A" championship. The Lions team, which finished the season with an impressive 15-5 record, is predominantly composed of students from Romulus and Belleville under the tutelage of head coach Charles TenBroeck.

Coach TenBroeck expressed pride in the team's performance, and was particularly complimentary about his leading scorers and rebounders: Zach Rice, Anthony Nash, Raphael White, and Lenny Isom.

"Nash scored 25 points for us in our 63-58 championship win over Detroit West Side, and White added 15 points and 7 assists," TenBroeck said.

The Lions reached the finals by defeating Flint Choice, 52-50.

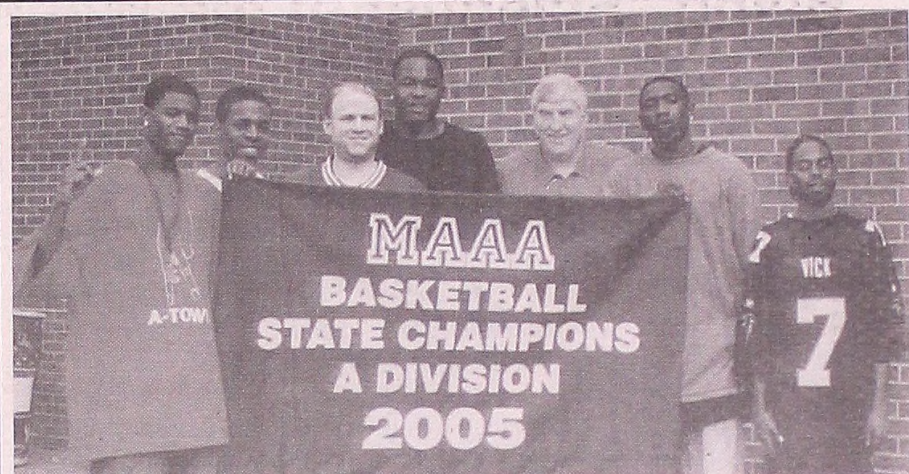
Community High principal Al Wilkerson, who coached the Romulus High School Eagles to their Michigan High School Athletic Association Class "A" basketball championship in 1986, helped organize the MAAA Class "A," "B," and "C" championships, which Romulus hosted in the RHS field house.

Also deserving of congratulations is the RCHS Lady Lions basketball team, which finished its inaugural season with a 4-1 record and earned the runner-up trophy in the first-ever MAAA girls' tournament. The Lady Lions, coached by TenBroeck, defeated Gratiot in the quarterfinals (25-23) and Cadillac in the semifinals (15-13) before losing the final, 41-17, to a very talented Flint Beecher team. Leading scorers for the RCHS Lady Lions were Renee Pittman and Ciara Fisher.

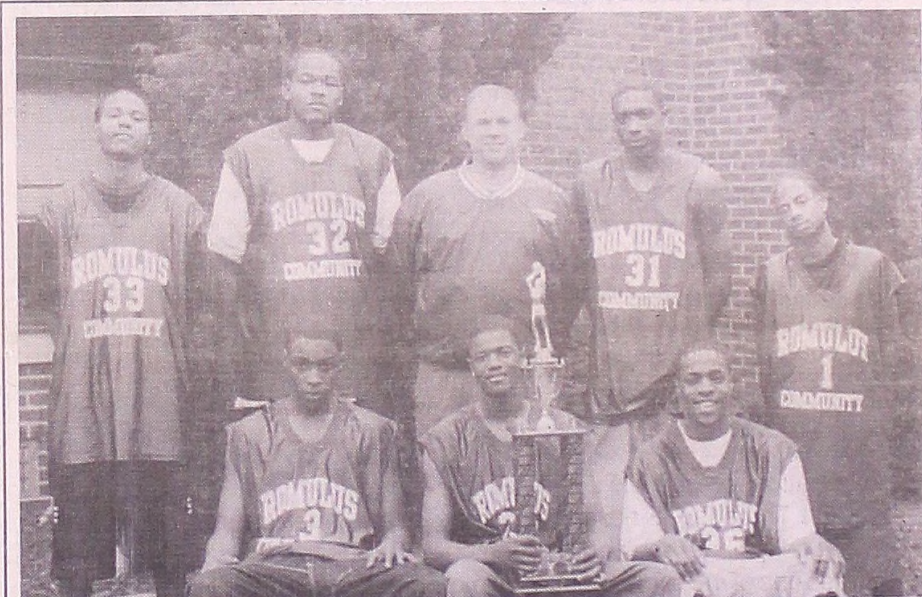
Principal Wilkerson was pleased to add the basketball teams' achievements to the school's growing list of accomplishments.

"The boys' state championship was our fourth state championship, and will go along with previous championships in flag football, basketball, and chess," Wilkerson noted. "We are very proud of the achievements of our students and our entire educational program."

Wilkerson also noted that Romulus Community High School was recently recognized as the runner-up in the statewide Alternative School of the Year award program. □



Charles TenBroeck (third from left), boys' basketball coach at Romulus Community High School, and Al Wilkerson (third from right), RCHS principal, celebrated the Lions' second Michigan Alternative Athletic Association (MAAA) Class "A" championship with players (from left) Raphael White, Bryce Harris, Zach Rice, Lenny Isom, and Juan White.



The state-champion RCHS Lions were proud to show off their second MAAA Class "A" basketball trophy. Team members include: (from left) front - Anthony Nash, Raphael White, and Bryce Harris; back - LaVon Jones, Zach Rice, Charles TenBroeck (coach), Lenny Isom, and Juan White. (Not pictured: Patrick Frison and Ivan Sanders.)

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Boosters Support Romulus Athletics



Romulus Athletic Boosters put in many hours on evenings and Saturdays, running food-service operations at district sporting events to raise money for athletic programs. Pictured are members who worked a recent boys' basketball game: (from left) front - Cheryl Buckley (also President, Romulus Board of Education), Debbie DeMoisey, and Mike Hunter; back - Ron Buckley, Msichana Buckley, Kim Long, and Pat Hunter.



Romulus Community High School's Lady Lions posed with their runner-up trophy from the first-ever MAAA girls' basketball tournament. Team members include: (from left) front - Tanessha Turner, Ciara Fisher, Tenika Carter, and Bianca Price; back - Renee Pittman, Shana Dietrick, Charles TenBroeck (coach), Lynette Baily, and Vanessa Hicks. (Not pictured: Whisper Banks, Tina Jones, Tascha Pitts, and Traci White.)

Community Calendar

- **Spring Craft Show** – The Romulus Progressive Club will host its Spring Craft Show at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featured items will include baskets, wreaths, jewelry, hand-painted clothing, candles, and more. Space is still available for crafters/vendors who would like to participate. For more information, call the hall (734-941-3044), Jim Poet (718-3137) or Diane Poet (942-7195).
- **It's Not Too Late To Get Your GED!** – Romulus Adult Education will be administering the GED test just three more times before school ends. Testing dates are May 2–3, May 7, and June 4. The cost of \$100 per person must be paid at the time of registration. Scores are usually received two weeks after testing. For more information, call 734-532-1953.
- **Writers Group Meets** – The Writers Connection – a group designed to bring writers and aspiring writers together – meets at JFK Public Library (24602 Van Born, Dearborn Heights) from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (next meeting: May 4). Membership is free. For more information about the group, call Maryjo: 313-274-4970.
- **Preschoolers' Reading Fair** – The second annual Romulus Preschoolers' Reading Fair will be held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard, next to City Hall) on Saturday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will give youngsters a chance to hear stories read by local dignitaries and receive a souvenir from a Romulus firefighter. Meanwhile, your family will have a chance to win raffle prizes like free hotel weekend getaways and educational toys/books. The event is free; refreshments will be provided. For more information, call the Romulus Community Schools Community Education Office (734-532-1953).
- **CUMC Hosts Mother's Day Service/Dinner** – Community United Methodist Church – located at 11160 Olive (corner of Bibbins) in Romulus – will host a special service/dinner in honor of Mother's Day (Sunday, May 8). Eleven o'clock worship will be followed by a hearty meal (12:30 p.m.) of fried chicken, baked potato, seven-layer salad, baby carrots, apple pie, ice-cream, and beverage (coffee, tea, soft drink, or water). Donation is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children over five years of age; kids four and under eat free. (Guests are invited to come for both events, or just dinner.) Tickets will be available in the church office after every worship service in April, as well as at the door. For more information, call Kathy at 734-941-0736.
- **American Progressive Association Seeks New Members** – The American Progressive Association – one of the oldest nonprofit/community organizations in Romulus – meets at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month (next meeting: May 10) at the Thomas J. Coleman Community Center (35351 Beverly Road). Annual membership dues are \$25 per year. New faces are welcome.
- **CUMC To Host Giant Rummage Sale** – Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive, corner of Bibbins) will host its annual Giant Rummage Sale on Thursday, May 12, and Friday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Saturday, May 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, call Kathy at the church (734-941-0736). Everyone welcome!
- **Memorial Balloon Launch** – Crane Funeral Home's second annual Balloon Launch – a ceremony in memory of loved ones who have passed away – will be held at the Funeral Home (36885 Goddard) on Sunday, May 15. For details, call 734-941-9200.
- **Travel Baseball Team Organizing** – A travel baseball team for youths age 13 and under is now organizing in the Romulus area. Anyone interested in registering should call Bob (734-942-9261) or Larry (734-722-1857) for info.
- **Kindergarten Enrollment Now Open** – Romulus Community Schools continues to accept enrollment for its all-day/every-day and half-day/every-day kindergarten programs for the 2005–2006 school year. Children who will be five years old as of December 1, 2005, are eligible. For more information, contact your neighborhood school.
- **Applications Now Accepted** – Metro Academy, a K–8 charter school, is accepting applications for the 2005–2006 school year. An open house is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, at 7 p.m. For more information, please call 734-641-3200, or visit www.metrocharteracademy.org.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Barth Celebrates Heritage Night



Colorfully attired for their recent Heritage Night performance were Barth Elementary School's second-graders, including: (from left) front – Emily Burcroff, Sarah Wadsworth, Zachary Kouba, Miranda Moffat, and Sierra Coleman; back – Clare Freeman and Amir Butler.



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Wick Celebrates Diversity



Wick Elementary teacher Kathy Hurst's second-graders – including (from left) Caine Caverly, Mickayla Lytle, Amir Joseph, Jade Hall, and Gary Curlee – danced to African junkango music at the school's recent Multicultural Assembly.

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First-grade teacher Vera Otis (back) led her students in song at the Wick Multicultural Assembly. Pictured are (from left) Christopher Goodley, Jordan Raymond, Kevonte Simmon, D'Mario Northington, Kolby Gamble, Daryl Bonner, and ShaRonda Austin.

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REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 14, 2005

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, March 14, 2005, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

3/05/1 Moved by White supported by Lenossi to approve the Agenda as amended. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

3/05/2 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by White to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2005, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Edward Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following personnel actions for Board approval:

RETIREMENT: Melvin Kimbrough, Principal, Middle School, Effective June 30, 2005.

3/05/3 Moved by White supported by Frayer that the Board of Education accept retirement of personnel as submitted. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

FYI – EMPLOYMENT: Karyn Ferrebee, Cafeteria 1, French Fryer and Utility Person, Effective March 3, 2005; and Tanya Frierson, Latchkey/Child Care Giver, My Friends & Me, Effective March 8, 2005.

Bills for Payment

3/05/4 Moved by Frayer supported by Kuderik to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Surplus Vehicles

3/05/5 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer that the Board of Education declare surplus four (4) buses and two (2) pickups as follows:

YEAR	BUS #	MILEAGE
1991	2	124,381
1991	4	153,605
1991	8	108,575
1991	30	111,850
1990	103 Chv. P.U.	62,225
1990	109 Chv. P.U.	86,576

Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Presentation – Cory Elementary

Ms. Phyllis Adkins, Principal, and various students appeared before the Board of Education to speak on Math Stars and Reading Stars, and enlightened the Board on those programs.

Consolidated Election Law – Proposed Agreement

3/05/6 Moved by Lenossi supported by Roscoe that the Board of Education approve the Consolidated Election Agreement between the City of Romulus and Romulus Community Schools. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Cedar Point – Romulus Elementary School

3/05/7 Moved by Frayer supported by Kuderik that the Board of Education approve the Field Trip to Cedar Point Amusement Park, Sandusky, Ohio, for Saturday, June 4, 2005, for

the Romulus Elementary School Safety Squad at no cost to the district. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

There were no communications from the public.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following Items of Interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Congratulations to CSR Presenters – State Conference; 2) WCASB – General Membership Meeting; 3) RHS Parent Newsletter; 4) Responsibility Adjustment Program Survey; 5) Article – "Test Mess 2: Are We Doing Better a Year Later?"; 6) Barth Elementary Parent News; 7) Dress Code Advisory Committee; 8) Romulus Elementary Newsletter; 9) Barth News; 10) State of Michigan – Congratulations – Barth Blue Ribbon; 11) Kenneth Mientkiewicz – Congratulations – Award of Merit and Certified Board Member Award; 12) Niema White – Congratulations – Award of Merit and Certified Board Member Award; 13) Minutes – Healthy Living Committee; 14) The Merriman Star; 15) Wick Elementary School Newsletter; 16) Congratulations, Andrea Reynolds – St. Stephen School.

Questions and/or Concerns of Board Members

Mrs. Cheryle Buckley extended congratulations to the Robotics Team, Quiz Bowl Team, Middle School Band, RHS Boys' Basketball Team for winning Regionals, Community High School Boys' Basketball Team for winning first place for alternative schools, and the Community High School Girls' Basketball Team for winning runner-up for alternative school. Mrs. Buckley further extended congratulations for the baby shower for Helping Hand Thrift Shop, which was a great success.

Mrs. Niema White stated that the Soul Food Dinner at Cory Elementary was great. Mrs. White further extended a thank-you to Mr. Tom Dolan for speaking at the Romulus Elementary Parent Appreciation Dinner.

Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz reminded the Board of the RESA meeting on March 23, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Tom Kuderik stated that the Culinary Arts program did well at competition, and is to be congratulated.

Mrs. Betty Lenossi stated that the Wick Elementary Multicultural program was very well done.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL NEGOTIATIONS:

3/05/8 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of Personnel Negotiations. Roll call vote: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Frayer, Roscoe, and Buckley. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

3/05/9 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer to reconvene into Regular Session. Roll call vote: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Frayer, Roscoe, and Buckley. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Regular Session at 7:30 p.m.

A Special Meeting was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on April 6, 2005, for the purpose of holding an Executive Session for personnel discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

3/05/10 Moved by White supported by Lenossi that the Meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Board President Buckley Interviewed



Romulus Board of Education President Cheryle Buckley (center) was one of several community leaders interviewed by Cory Elementary students like Pamela Johnson (left) and Kyra Crawford. The students' interviews are taped, and the profiles later replayed during all-school programs.

Parent Group Holds Planning Meeting



Meeting to discuss fund-raisers and other activities planned for the remainder of the 2004-2005 school year were members of the Halecreek Parent Group: (from left) front - Wendy Diebel, Monika Reynolds (parent coordinator), Karen Britt, Amy Tallman (student teacher, Western Michigan University), and Laurie Bilyk (student teacher, WMU); back - Sharon Silveri (principal), Cathy Kudra (kindergarten teacher), Shari Stewart, Tammy Garrison, Debbie Orr, and Julie Hirschert.

Frayer Congratulates Media Students



Romulus Board of Education vice-president April Frayer (back, center) congratulated Romulus Elementary media students who appeared before the board to make a presentation about their school's daily newscast. Among the student presenters were: (from left) front - Junaé Harville, Kylee Johnson, Keli Boyd, Amanda Linnert, and James Newbill; back - Kayla Patterson, Adrianna Williams, and Symone Martin.

Café Bibliothèque at RHS

The Romulus High School National Honor Society's Café Bibliothèque was a big hit with students and staff. The annual event, which raises money for the NHS, provides excellent performance opportunities for artistically inclined students.

"NHS students turned the school's media center into a mini-nightclub with performance and seating areas," said district spokesperson Dick Kruse. "The students acted as waiters and waitresses, and also prepared and served lunch."

National Honor Society advisor Albert Garrett said that Café Bibliothèque is one of the students' favorite programs of the year.

"They really enjoy the opportunity to come and hear the musical performances, poetic readings, comedy acts, etc., presented by their fellow classmates and school staff members."

Café Bibliothèque performances are



Malicia Jones (left) and Katie Hale were among the students who performed at Café Bibliothèque.

given during school lunch periods throughout the weeklong program.

RHS senior Katie Hale said she enjoyed taking part in Café Bibliothèque, noting, "It's fun to perform in the show because the audience is really supportive, and the students encourage you to do a good job." □

PBS Visits Wick for Workshop

Vernita Beverly, Director of Education for Detroit Public TV, recently treated parents at Wick Elementary to a special presentation entitled "Ready to Learn." Beverly has presented her program to over 8,000 metro Detroit parents over the years.

"'Ready to Learn' uses an approach that teaches children by explaining material directly, and supplements the skill or lesson theme through the use of storybooks and related activities," said district spokesperson Dick Kruse.

Director Beverly demonstrated materials such as parent training manuals, the PBS family magazine, free children's books, and activity sheets to assist par-

ents with interactive viewing of PBS educational programming.

"PBS offers a 10-hours-per-day schedule of outstanding children's programs such as *Sesame Street*, *Dragon Tales*, *Arthur*, *Caillou*, and *Zoboomafoo* for children and families to enjoy," she noted.

Wick social worker Sandy MacDonald was very excited to have Beverly as her guest for the school's "Meet and Eat" program for parents last month.

"Director Beverly gave our parents some outstanding ideas and materials to help their children effectively supplement their classroom education," she said.



Wick Elementary School parents attended a workshop given by Detroit PBS Education Specialist Vernita Beverly (back, second from left), who discussed ways to use PBS programming to help children learn. Attendees included: (from left) front - Geneva Mathews, Lywanda Williams, Debbie Mallard, and Clarise Hurston; back - Noreen Tucker, Chrystal Trussell, Sandy MacDonald (social worker), Releford Gamble, and Charles Kidwell.

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-955-4120.)

Limited Parking at the Center

Due to construction work on the City's new senior center, parking is at a premium right now, according to Linda Norman. The senior programs coordinator urges visitors to call ahead to check on parking availability, or to park at City Hall and call from there to arrange for a pickup.

April Fool's Party

The Senior Center's next monthly luncheon will be held on Friday, April 29, at 12 p.m. In keeping with this (deliberately belated) celebration of April Fool's Day, the menu will be served "backwards," with dessert first, followed by spaghetti, scalloped potatoes, biscuits, and a beverage.

Among the highlights of the get-together will be a silly sing-a-long, a "no talent" contest, and a laughing contest (with prizes!). Those who attend the luncheon are encouraged to wear their clothes backwards, inside out, upside down, and/or in a mismatched manner. Prizes will be awarded for the most original, the funniest, and the most peculiar costumes. Cost for the luncheon is just \$3.50. Sign up soon!

Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet

The Romulus Senior Center is planning a Mother's Day Breakfast Buffet at the Double Tree Hotel on Friday, May 6, at 9 a.m. The lavish menu will feature scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage links, breakfast potatoes, French toast, sliced seasonal fruit, yogurt, breads/bagels/muffins/Danish, cold cereal, and beverages (milk, juice, tea, and coffee).

Cost is just \$11.25 per person. Sign up by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 29.

Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. Among the group's upcoming outings are the following:

- May 6 (Southgate Theatre and lunch at Famous Dave's - 11:30 a.m.),
- May 31 (Detroit Zoo - 11:30 a.m.), and
- June 24 (lunch at Clinton Inn - 11:30 a.m.)

For more information, please e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com or call the Center.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Ask the Attorney

Local attorney Steve Robinson's monthly "Ask the Attorney" program - a free consultation service for Romulus senior citizens - has been scheduled for 3 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 10, at the Center.

As always, both walk-ins (36515 Bibbins) and call-ins (734-955-4120) are welcome.

Check Your Blood Pressure

Local senior citizens are invited to stop by the Center between 12 and 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 27, to have their blood pressure checked by a friendly representative of the Romulus Fire Department.

There is no charge for this service.

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

New Time for Commodities Pickup

Just a reminder that the new pickup time for Commodities and Focus: HOPE is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

This program is available to low-income individuals and families of all ages. Call the Center to check on eligibility guidelines.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost.

To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for only \$1.75. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation. □

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Baby's Name _____
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Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

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City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Obituary**Ellen Koester**

Ellen Koester of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, April 17, 2005, at the age of 97.

The Romulus native was born on August 30, 1907.

Ellen is survived by 7 nephews and nieces: Gloria (Sheldon) Chandler, Sherra James-Lowry, Betty (Jack) Levick, Larry (Doris) Miank, Fred (Janet) Koester, George Koester, and Ruth Vleeker.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, William

L. and Minerva (Fink) McBride; her husband, Herbert J. Koester; and 2 sisters, Ruth Miank and Ada Scott.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, April 19, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Reverend William Kren (Community United Methodist Church, Romulus) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial tributes to any charitable organization would be greatly appreciated by the Koester family.

The Police Blotter

continued from page 4

- 2:21 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 9500 Middlebelt)
 - 7:52 a.m. – UDAA (block of 5900 Frederic)
 - 8:07 a.m. – Dumping/Littering (block of 7080 Niagara)
 - 8:54 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6080 Second)
 - 11:48 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8450 Merriman)
- Friday, April 15**
- 12:50 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 34200 Pine Wood Circle)
 - 7:38 a.m. – A&B (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
 - 1:21 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 27600 Newcastle)
 - 2:08 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 30400 Teak Lane)
 - 9:18 p.m. – MDOP (block of 6880 Niagara)

- 10:14 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 6760 Merriman)
 - 10:43 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 6840 Amarillo)
- Saturday, April 16**
- 1:16 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35200 Michelle)
 - 1:27 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 16000 Hannan)
 - 2:18 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 29000 Ecorse)
 - 9:04 a.m. – Threats (block of 9540 Biddle)
 - 11:08 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 15500 Taft)
 - 9:58 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 29000 Northline)
 - 10:27 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 28400 Northline)
 - 10:55 p.m. – VPHC Activity Investigation (block of 31500 Wick)

ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174

SPECIAL MEETING, APRIL 6, 2005

The Special Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Wednesday, April 6, 2005, was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

4/05/1 Moved by White supported by Lenossi to convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Roll call vote: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Frayer, Roscoe, and Buckley. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 6:02 p.m.

4/05/2 Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer to reconvene in Regular Session. Roll call vote: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Frayer, Roscoe, and Buckley. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Regular Session at 6:49 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

4/05/3 Moved by White supported by Lenossi that the Meeting be adjourned. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

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